

THE REFORMER.

PUBLISHED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

South Carolina is making a test case whether she can be required under the dispensary system to pay the internal revenue taxes for liquor selling. It is a question that is interesting to our town liquor agencies.

Senator Scott now acknowledges the letter which Gen. Sikes had written regarding the removal of Commissioner Evans. "You see I was in politics then," he says, "and was writing political letters. It was anything but Bryan."

The Boston Globe, commenting in much the same line as we did Tuesday on the great increase in college educated women, calls attention to the fact that already one doctor in every 25 is a woman, and 1-28th of the preachers are women. One-eighth of the college professors' chairs are now filled by women, while one journalist out of every 20 is a woman. In telegraphy and clerking women show signs of yet taking the whole field.

Herbert Asquith's speech in London last week protesting against the resolutions of the Boer meeting as misrepresenting party sentiment sharply remarks the hopelessness of the split in the Liberal party over the war. Asquith himself was originally opposed to hostilities, but now declares himself a convert to the necessity of annexation. He thus places himself with the Liberal Imperialists of the type of Lord Roseberry and Sir Edward Grey, while Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader in the Commons holds the contrary view as do a majority of the Liberals.

There is quite a general expression of condemnation in the state press of the pardon of Cashier Mussey of Rutland, though it was recommended by the judge, district attorney and several of the jurors that heard the case. The Sunday Republican correspondent, however, suggests an "inside" reason for it, in addition to his good record, the aid he gave in convicting McClure, the fact that he did not personally profit by the stealing that wrecked the bank and the critical state of his health. This is the possible need of his evidence in another trial of McClure. At the conclusion of the latter's trial his attorneys move for an arrest, on the ground of a defect in the indictment. The motion was overruled, but an appeal was taken. This appeal has not yet been entered, but it is thought that should Mussey die the matter will be taken to the United States circuit court of appeals, which might free McClure on a technicality and hence the need of preserving Mussey's life.

In his remarkable address on the liquor problem at the recent Congressional convention in Rutland, Mr. Dr. Mearns of Albany made the statement that the drink habit cuts off the average of the human life 23½ years. This statement is challenged by the Brattleboro Reformer, but it does not seem likely that such a well-informed man as Dr. Mearns would make such a statement unless he could back it up—St. Johnsbury Courier.

Suppose you ask him to back it up and find whether he can produce anything worthy of the name of statistical support. The average of human life is less than 40 years, and the statement that the drink habit cuts off 23½ of this is absurd on the face of it. The general average to which Dr. Mearns' statement as reported, of course, referred includes childhood, which the drink habit does not reach. But even eliminating that, and taking the average expectation of life at 20 years and no such difference between the drink and non-drinkers as he states exists or anything near it. There is no doubt that excessive drinking does shorten life to some extent, and probably habitual moderate drinking also, though this is still a matter of dispute. The statement of the fact as it is, suffices for effective temperance argument, which such gross exaggerations as Dr. Mearns' only weakens.

The comic opera side of the Chinese situation appears nowhere more forcibly than in the early discovery that China has been mulcted \$24,500,000 more than the powers had intended to demand. But the cream of the joke lies in the solemn diplomatic talkers' report as to what ought to be done with this money. It is time for Mark Twain to make his keen sword blade whistle a little more.

They recall for Gen. Sikes' personal decoration these hot days, in view of his change of opinion regarding Commissioner Evans, that just prior to the Civil War he made a speech advocating the secession of New York City from the Union. It's a long forgotten episode, and the memory of it must make the general people more freely. But he was gallantly fighting for the Union a few months later. Sikes always was inclined to go headlong in whatever direction he started.

Steam railroad mileage was constructed to the amount of 1967 miles in the first half of this year, according to a return gathered by the Railroad Gazette of New York. This compares with a construction of 5110 miles in the same period of 1900—indicating no tendency to advance construction above the larger rate of the past two years. The building this year is largely confined to the Southwest, as was the case last year—Texas taking 245 miles of the new road.

White Man Turned Yellow.
Great consternation was felt by the friends of M. A. Hogarty of Lexington, Ky., when they saw he was turning yellow. His skin slowly changed color, also his eyes, and he suffered terribly. His malady was Yellow Fever, which was contracted by the best doctors, but without benefit. Then he was advised to try Electric Pitters, the wonderful Stomach and Liver remedy, and he writes: "After taking two bottles I was wholly cured." A trial proves its matchless merit for all Stomach, Liver and Kidney troubles. Only 50c. Sold by F. H. Holden & Co.

Is Human Life Growing Longer?

Whether the average of human life is increasing, except as it is affected by the great decrease infant mortality, is a matter of dispute in the medical world. To the lay mind it would seem as if the progress of medical knowledge which has multiplied the number of children that survive the first year or two must have had a similar effect in saving and prolonging life in later years. It is certain that improved methods of sanitation, diet and living have wrought much in this direction and so have the new means of precaution and prevention against contagious diseases, toward the mastery of which the last quarter of a century has seen such advances. On the other hand it is insisted by some authorities that this is all offset by the "diseases of civilization," nervous troubles and various organic breakdowns that were comparatively unknown by earlier generations. There is undoubtedly some truth in this view, but it is at the same time to be doubted if these are so much new diseases, as a better understanding of old ones. Insane asylum statistics will illustrate the difficulty of accurate conclusions in this line. A count of the inmates shows an enormous increase in later years, due in some part, doubtless, to the effect of modern conditions of life in inducing insanity, but more to the fact that much nearer all the insane are under institutional care than formerly.

The best evidence regarding the duration of life in life insurance statistics, though these again are not entirely satisfactory. For the last eight years the British life insurance companies and a joint committee representing the actuaries of England and Scotland have been engaged upon the preparation of a new table of life experience, based upon the actual results disclosed in the experience of 60 British companies and embracing 608,000 risks during the years from 1863 to 1893. The new tables show an average duration of insurance in the case of healthy males of 12½ years, as compared with only 8½ years in the old one. For example, by the old table, out of 100,000 at the age of 10 years, with whom the table starts, 72,725 would be living at the age of 50, while 75,185 would be living, according to the new one. The expectation of life at 50 by the old table is 19,806; by the new it is 20,107. If the first five years of insurance are excluded from the computation, the new experience is still more favorable as compared with the old one.

The element of doubt in the comparison is in the fact that the tendency, theoretically, at least, is every year towards greater care in the selection of life insurance risks, though the intense competition among the companies for "new business" probably operates to offset this in large degree. The surprising thing in the British comparisons is that the difference in the "expectation of life" after 50 is not greater. It certainly seems to the ordinary observation if there were many more people living to an advanced age, than 25 or 30 years ago. It may be this is less so in Great Britain than in this country, as the result of the peculiar industrial conditions there.

The subject is certainly a most interesting one, and new American experience tables would throw an instructive light on it.

The British Nobility.

Perhaps the three greatest names in British politics between the date of the Reform Bill and the year 1870 were Sir Robert Peel, Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell, and the present bearers of the titles of two of them are, strange to say, in disgrace or under criminal charges. The present Sir Robert Peel, not long ago was a prisoner at the bar of a London police court, where he was convicted of crime. The present Earl Russell is to undergo a trial before the House of Lords on a charge of bigamy, for marrying after procuring a Nevada divorce from his first wife.

Still, in spite of such cases, the British nobility is probably sounder morally as a body, than any other in Europe, for the reason that Lord Beaconsfield once said, that there isn't a peer in England, who could honestly boast of an ancient lineage, and that the real old families were among the peasantry. The wars of the Roses killed off the barons and lords so thoroughly that when Henry VIII called his Parliament only 29 temporal peers could be found in the kingdom. Of those 29 not five now remain. The modern peerage has distinctly modern roots. As Beaconsfield wrote: "We owe the peerage to three sources—the spoliation of the church, the open and flagrant sale of honors by the elder Stuarts and the borough-mongering of our own times."

The sources of fresh supply have not always been such as to excite public admiration. For example, the dukes of Grafton, Richmond and St. Albans are due to the relations of Charles II with his mistresses. As late as 1831 an earldom was created for an illegitimate son of William IV. But ever since William Pitt's day British prime ministers have used their power to create nobles for political reasons. In great years Pitt created 55 lords, drawing them from the rank of bankers, merchants, landowners and contractors. Pitt even took a Jew and made a peer out of him. Later premiers have constantly added to the ranks of the peerage by elevating rich commoners who have contributed heavily to party funds, or politicians with a past who needed to be removed from the House of Commons, or eminent men of science and letters like Lord Kelvin and Tennyson, or eminent civil-service officials and colonial governors.

The Orchestra Tuning Up.

The orchestra is getting tuned up in good shape for music over the case of Pension Commissioner Evans. Senator Scott, who had charge of the New York headquarters of the Republican national committee last week, appeared Friday with a denial of Gen. Sikes' charge that he made a campaign promise that Evans should be removed if McKinley was re-elected. Sikes meets this by producing the following letter:

My Dear Gen. Sikes: Yours of the 29th to hand and contents noted. Of course it would be impossible for me to say to you that the president would not appoint, or that he would appoint, certain individuals, but I think I can say safely that I hardly think Evans will be continued as commissioner, and I have no doubt that the president and all of us who are interested in his election will try to see to it that there is a commissioner of pensions who will be satisfactory to the old soldiers.

I think this is all that I could say on that subject without perhaps embarrassing the president, and possibly the committee, but I think you can take it for granted that things will be about on the line that you suggest. With kindest regards, and wishing you a very pleasant trip, I am, yours very sincerely, N. B. Scott.

This hardly comes up to line of absolute promise, but it was enough so that Sikes says he spread the statement in the west that Evans would surely go, and he believes that it was that alone that saved Nebraska and several other states to the national ticket. Sikes continues:

These assurances were ratified by the President on Nov. 27, after the election, in the presence of representative soldiers from different parts of the country, when we visited him at the White House by appointment to congratulate him upon his re-election. He then stated to us that it was his intention to choose a successor to Commissioner Evans at the expiration of his term of office.

On June 17 I wrote to President McKinley, directing his attention to the fact that I was placed in a very embarrassing position because, on the assurance of the national Republican committee, I had promised prominent Ward Army men that Commissioner Evans would not be reappointed. I added that the demand for his removal was growing daily.

I must decline to say whether or not I have received an answer to this communication. The time has not arrived for me to make this point public. I will say, however, that if Commissioner Evans is not removed there will be "music."

But McKinley's promise as Gen. Sikes states it is a queer one, for the office has no term, but the commissioner is simply removable, so there can be no "reappointment." Either McKinley made no such promise, or Sikes misrepresents his phraseology, or the President was talking very loosely. But we will wait for Sikes' next installment.

During the weeks before and after the Fourth of July in this country there are every year nearly 200 deaths from tetanus, or lockjaw, as it is commonly called. There is a scientific reason for its being peculiarly a disease of the "Glorious Fourth." The germ, as shown by its discoverer, Kitasato, the Japanese bacteriologist, will not grow where there is free oxygen present. Hence the rarity of the disease where wounds are open. Burned wounds present conditions favorable for the growth of the tetanus germ. Scarcely tissues seal the microbes from the air and it grows luxuriously. Deep, penetrating wounds, such as are made by a nail or prong of the rake, provide in the depths of the tissues beneath the clot of blood, similar anaerobic conditions. The principal source of tetanus bacilli is farm soil. In the spore stage they cling to hay and other horse fodder and thus are carried to the city. The bacilli multiply in the horses' intestines away from the air, but without doing harm. Thence it finds its way in large numbers to the street. So long as horses continue to occupy our streets there will always be tetanus bacilli in the street dirt. Whenever a deep wound or a burn is likely to have been contaminated by street dirt, precautions should be taken against them. Acute tetanus is practically always fatal. Prevention must be the word. There is no cure, once symptoms have developed. The lockjaw and muscular spasm of the disease are the signs, not of beginning tetanus, but of approaching death from the disease. Sapped wounds, then, should be freely laid open and the blood allowed to flow from them without hindrance for a few minutes. Then a prophylactic injection of tetanus antitoxin should be given. The antitoxin will not cure tetanus when fully developed. It can be relied on to prevent the disease, however. Thousands of doses of tetanus antitoxin have been administered without a single bad result.

NOTINGS.

There was organized a few weeks ago the Evangelical Union of the Philippine Islands, whose first object it is to unite all the Evangelical forces in the islands for the purpose of unity and effectiveness in missionary operations. The executive committee of this body has already elected a division of territory. The city and province of Manila are to be common ground for all the societies. The Presbyterians are to labor in the south of Luzon; the Methodists go to the north as far as Dagupan; the Episcopalians are assigned to the United Provinces; the Baptists are to continue the work which they have already begun in the islands of Panay and Negros, and the Presbyterians are to share these fields with them, a definite unit being fixed to the territory which each is to occupy.

Bro. Hanna has given \$50,000 to Kenyon College to build a new dormitory which is to be called at his suggestion "political barracks."

The Cuban constitutional convention is this week discussing an electoral law. "I am indebted to One Minute Cough Cure for my present good health and my life, I was treated in vain by doctors for long trouble following a gripe. I took One Minute Cough Cure and recovered my health."—Mr. E. H.

N. I. HAWLEY.

MID-SUMMER SALE

Of general merchandise—many things to be sold out now for less than usual value.

Store Closed July 4

Lot New Linen and Grass Cloth Skirts

Just Received.

More Novelties in Women's Neckwear.

Thin underwear for women at popular prices.

Another Sale of Women's Wrappers at 49 cents.

These are made of Standard Percales—medium colorings—corset waist, trimmed yoke and epaulettes, deep flounce on skirt.

Sale still continued, as advertised last week, of wrappers at 75c, \$1, \$1.25, and \$1.50.

Shirt Waists.

More handsome ones came in yesterday to sell at 89c, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$1.98.

Great Wash Goods

Selling.

Thousands of yards going at the smallest kind of prices. We mention a few.

Dress Gingham, a wide range of designs, value 10c, sale price 6 1-4 a yard.

Yard-wide Percales, beautiful colorings, value 10c, sale price, 6 1-4 a yard.

Five cent cherties now 3 1-2 cents.

Thirty-nine cent silk gingham now 25c.

Twenty-five cent Scotch gingham, 19c.

Twelve and one-half cent and 15c fine American Scotch gingham now 10c.

Six and one-half cent standard prints, all this season's best patterns, now 5c.

Five cent best shirting prints now 4 cents.

Four and one-half cent madder prints, now 3 1-2c.

Fifteen cent polka dot Chambray, now 12 1-2c.

Twelve and one-half cent linen colored striped batiste, now 9c.

One bale yard-wide "Sterling" brown cotton, has been 6 3-4 at wholesale, now 5 1-2 cents.

Wamsutta pillow cases, 42x36, 15 cents; 45x36, 18 cents.

We are manufacturers' agents for this section for the celebrated "Defender" make of Ready-made Sheets and Pillow Cases. Can furnish all sizes—plained hemmed, hemstitched and Fancy Fagot or Mexican border—at closest retail prices.

Small lot just now of New York Mills 45x36 Pillow Cases, 15 cents.

Ladies' House Dresses made of Figured Lawn by Wheeler, Howe & Lovejoy. Skirt has two ruffles, hangs properly; waist perfect fitting; retail value \$2, sale price \$1 on this lot.

Two-Piece Lawn and Chambray Dresses, \$2.00, \$3.95 and \$5.00, choice styles, daintily made.

Fancy Hosiery

is more in demand than heretofore. Have desirable new styles at 25, 42 and 50 cents.

Henriettes

All wool. Regular 75-cent quality, 38 inches wide, same as the two lots which sold out so quickly when offered last spring; eleven colorings, now all 39 cents a yard. Navy with red polka; all the following shades have black polka spots—Cardinal, Turquoise, Tan, Med-green, Light Green, Black, Yale, Mode, Pink, Lavender, all 39 cents a yard.

Remember the specials heretofore advertised in Sun and Rain Umbrellas at \$1.48, 98, 72 and 48 cents. Also the fine sample lot of Dress Parasols which we closed at a discount of 33 1-3 per cent from manufacturers' regular price and sell at corresponding reduction. No two alike. All fine goods. \$3.00 to \$6.00.

Smart Eaton Jackets in Taffeta, Broadcloth, Pebbled Cheviot and Tan Box Cloth, Stylish Raglans, Misses' Top Coats—all offered at Clearance Prices now.

In Women's New York Tailor-Made Suits

We have this season sold a great many more than in any previous season, and a larger proportion of high-grade goods.

To do this we had to keep the stock almost constantly replenished with the most desirable gowns turned out by the most skillful, artistic tailors.

Something new—something different from what we showed a few days before, was our constant endeavor and of the hundreds sold, there are but few—and in finest novelties NO duplicates.

We also had to have the prices right and have the assurance of many women who, either before or after buying a suit of us have priced suits in New York, Boston, Hartford, Worcester or Springfield, that they are well satisfied, both as to style and price, with suits bought of us.

Recently we have either alone or by combination with a syndicate of large city retailers, secured much below real value the entire balance of several large manufacturers' samples and overstocks. These made up the phenomenal offering I have recently made in the four lots advertised at \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.50 and \$15.00, not one of which could be made for the price we are now selling them for.

NOW I add to these four lots individual suits from regular stock not heretofore offered as low. And our few remaining very fine Zais's and Rothschild's pattern Suits—on which their wholesale price was \$25.00, \$27.50 and \$30—also offered NOW at

\$19.00 Each.

CONSTANTLY CHANGING

NOW, our assortment of

Dress Skirts,

Self Skirts

Petticoats, Kimonos and, Fine Waists

Lot 38-inch Gilt's all-wool plaids and fine check go into this mid-summer sale for

25 cents.

Same previously offered as a job at 34 cents.

Four pieces grey mixed and brown mixed Worsteds, formerly much used when folks wanted Quaker-like stuff which would wear well for common dress. Picked these up under value.

Sell them for 8 cents a yard now.

Wash Waists.

At 25 cents apiece, lot new ones made to sell for 50 cents.

At 50 cents apiece, some 75 cents.

At 69 cents and 75 cents, some dollar ones.

At 98 cents and at \$1.19 some \$1.25 and \$1.50 things.

Few fine Silk Waists worth \$5.95, 6.95, 7.50 and \$50, all reduced in price now.

Special job in Silk Waists at \$3.95 and in fine Wool Alhambra in delicate colorings at \$4.45.

These two lots being clearance of Schwab's much higher priced and always perfect fitting waists.

HAWLEY.

Rev. Dr. Byron Sunderland, whose death at Catskill, N. Y., is tenderly noted in our Sons of Vermont news, has been a notable figure in the Presbyterian clergy in Washington for 47 years. He acted as chaplain in the Senate from 1861 to 1864 and from 1875 to 1879, becoming a personal friend of many prominent men, being acquainted with all the Presidents of that period. He was a warm friend of President Lincoln and was one of the first to reach the bedside of President Garfield when he was shot by Guitau. The day before the Emancipation Proclamation was signed he visited President Lincoln and urged him to sign it. Dr. Sunderland was President Cleveland's pastor and performed the marriage ceremony between the President and Miss Folsom and baptized all their children. He was stationed in France for a year during the war and his Union sermons at the American chapel attracted wide-spread attention, especially in England, which was then reaching out a helping hand to the Confederacy. Sunderland was his native place and he was a Revolutionary stock on both sides. His mother belonged to the New England family of Walcotts. He was a graduate of Middlebury in 1839.

One of the most remarkable experiences on record is that of George R. Lawrence, a photographer, who was up in a balloon to gain a view of the Chicago stock yards, and who fell 30 feet through the breaking of his balloon and yet escaped with comparative injury. When he found that he was falling he thought quickly, and by balancing himself on the little platform of ten square feet, kept it squarely under him as a car and parachute. What he reached ground he had his joints bent and his muscles stiff, and his only unpleasant sensation was a stinging feeling in his feet, going about his business as usual, as if a fall of 200 feet was an ordinary occurrence.

DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve should be promptly applied to cuts, lacerations and sores and quickly heals the injured parts. There are worthless counterfeits. Be sure to get DeWitt's. Green's drug store.

Recently we have either alone or by combination with a syndicate of large city retailers, secured much below real value the entire balance of several large manufacturers' samples and overstocks. These made up the phenomenal offering I have recently made in the four lots advertised at \$7.50, \$10.00, \$12.50 and \$15.00, not one of which could be made for the price we are now selling them for.

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Sell them for 8 cents a yard now.

SHOE BARGAINS.

BOYS'

Kingston Golf Good solid shoes Wear-defying Steel Crotchet all over them.

Russia Golf Double Sole Extra value. 2 to 6 \$1.48

SMALL BOYS'

Lucas, spring heels. All solid. Stout sole. Black or russet. 9 to 13 98c.

ALL NEW STOCK.

J. E. HAYNES.

The friends of F. L. Lockwood will be pleased to read extracts of a letter sent back to Barnard by him. The route we went Vermont Central, New York Central, Lake Shore, Illinois Central, Union Pacific, Southern Pacific, and we were allowed to get off the train at every important station and look around until the train started. When we crossed the Rocky Mountains we hardly knew the difference from the Wyoming foot hills, but when we reached Sierra Nevada Mountains it took three engines to haul our train of thirteen cars to the summit. We went through forty-two miles of snow sheds. The snow up there is 25 feet deep. In half an hour everything was in bloom. In going around some of the peaks we could look straight down several thousand feet. The river at the bottom looked like a little silver ribbon. We reached San Francisco April 14th, went on board the transport the 15th. We reached Honolulu April 23rd, stayed there one day. I was taken sick May 11th and put in the ship's hospital the 12th. We sighted the islands the 13th in the morning we passed the wrecks of the Spanish fleet that Dewey destroyed and that night anchored in Manila Bay. I was put in a hospital and in a few days the ship took the rest of the boys to the Southern Islands. I am about three miles from Manila. Nearly all the buildings were made of bamboo. The nurses are American women. I belong to Co. D, 11th Infantry, Manila, P. I.

Guy Putnam came to his father's, H. B. Putnam's, from Boston Sunday morning.

O. D. Greene has been attending Geo. Dutton.

Stella Putnam was in Stockbridge Saturday.

A brick is to help N. W. Hathorn about having.

Alexander Briggs of Rochester, was in town last week.

E. E. Wheeler closed his labors on the road Friday.

About 20 couples attended the dance Friday night. Alice Kelly and Josephine Cobb of Woodstock, and Geo. and Nellie Rogers of Bethel.

Red Crow and wife are bereaved over the death of their youngest child with dropsy of the brain Saturday morning.

Frederick Morgan is to come home from Bellows Falls to help his father out his hay.

Chas. Marston of Montpelier, was at his lake cottage Friday.

Mrs. L. A. French came home Saturday night after being away since Wednesday.

Frank Churchill expects to close road work Tuesday.

John Gilman of Bethel, was in town last week to get some hay cut.

Frederick Townsend is expected at C. Townshend's Tuesday from Pepperell, Mass.

John Dutton returned to Bristol Saturday, after a visit with his brother.

C. D. Cushing was at his cottage at the lake Sunday. Mrs. Cushing and children coming on Saturday night previous.

The school closed on the Creek Friday on account of a severe weather.

Harris Waters, wife and child came to see his mother Sunday from Gayville.

E. C. Churchill is in rather poor health. He is unable to be out after a severe attack of rheumatism.

Quite a number have begun having. Young Decony of Bethel came up on his wheel and while coming down a hill was thrown and quite badly hurt and his wheel smashed.

Geo. Tabbutt and wife were here from Bethel Sunday.

Will Hassan from Gayville spent Sunday in town.

A. K. Aikens and Fred Cady were in Bethel Sunday.

INTERESTED IN PIANOS AND ORGANS?

Well then, here's a bit of news which may interest you.

C. W. STEWART OF BRATTLEBORO,

who for the past 25 years has sold thousands of satisfied customers in this vicinity. Pianos and Organs, has established a

MANUFACTURERS' AGENCY

for the sale of several of the best and highest grade of Pianos and Organs. These goods are too well known to require more than mere mention of the names, which follow:

WEBER, Hallett & Davis, Wm. Bourne & Sons, W. P. Haines & Co., and other Makers.

W. W. PUTNAM, PACKARD, WILCOX & WHITE.

ORGANS

These goods are the best and highest grade of Pianos and Organs. These goods are too well known to require more than mere mention of the names, which follow:

The Point of Our Argument is This:

To find a